

Table 4 shows the percentages of infants with selected maternal and perinatal characteristics who were born with congenital anomalies (ICD-9 740-759). Of all infants whose mothers were less than 18 years of age in 1990, 8.4 percent were born with major and/or minor congenital anomalies. A higher percentage of male infants than females were born with birth defects for all

three years. The frequency of reported congenital malformations among nonwhites was twice that of whites throughout the period. Most, but not all, of the difference in the prevalence of congenital malformations between whites and nonwhites is due to a disproportionate number of minor malformations being reported among blacks.

Table 4
Percentage of Births with One or More Congenital Anomalies* by Selected Maternal and Perinatal Characteristics
North Carolina, 1988-90

<u>Maternal and Perinatal Characteristics</u>		<u>Percentage of Births With a Congenital Anomaly</u>		
		<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>
Age of Mother	Less than 18 years	6.8	7.2	8.4
	18-34 years	4.4	5.6	6.0
	35 years and over	4.3	5.6	6.3
Gender of Child	Male	5.0	6.2	6.7
	Female	4.1	5.2	5.6
Race	White	3.3	4.3	4.5
	Nonwhite	7.1	8.7	9.8
Education of Mother	Less than 9 years	6.0	7.0	8.1
	9-11 years	6.1	6.9	7.7
	12 years	4.6	6.0	6.3
	More than 12 years	3.4	4.5	5.1
Birthweight	Less than 1,500 grams	13.0	18.4	21.1
	1,500-2,499 grams	7.7	10.3	10.8
	2,500 grams and over	4.2	5.1	5.6
Infant Death	Yes	27.0	29.2	29.0
	No	4.3	5.4	5.9
Medical Risk Factors	Yes	5.6	7.0	7.7
	No	4.2	5.3	5.7
Smoked During Pregnancy	Yes	4.8	6.0	6.5
	No	4.6	5.6	6.1
C-Section	Yes	5.4	6.7	7.4
	No	4.3	5.4	5.8

* Includes both major and minor malformations